

ORDINANCE NO. 53

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY ELECTRICIAN, AND DEFINING HIS POWERS AND DUTIES; PROVIDING RULES AND REGULATIONS COVERING ELECTRICAL WORK IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE; PROVIDING FOR LICENSES; REGISTRATIONS AND PERMITS FOR PERSONS DOING ELECTRICAL WORK.

Be It Ordained by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance as follows:

Section 1. (a) There is hereby created in and for the City of Torrance the office of City Electrician, which office shall be filled by appointment of the Council of said City, and the incumbents of such office shall hold their office during the pleasure of said Council, and shall receive such salary as said Council shall establish.

Section 2. The term "person," as used in this ordinance, shall be deemed to mean and include corporations, associations, partnerships, agents and individuals.

Section 3. The term "electrical equipment," as used in this ordinance shall be deemed to mean and include all wires, wiring, connections, appliances, apparatus and material used for or in connection with the transmission or use of electricity for light, heat or power.

The terms "electrical work," as used in this ordinance shall be deemed to mean and include the installation, construction, maintenance and repair of electrical equipment.

Section 4. The City Electrician shall have supervision of all electrical work in and on all buildings and structures in the City of Torrance.

Section 5. All electrical equipment and electrical work hereafter to be installed in or on any building and other structures in the City of Torrance must be in conformity with the National Board of Fire Underwriters, "National Electrical Code," then in force at the time the work is done, and in conformity with all rules and regulations established by the City Electrician and then in force, pursuant to authority vested in the City Electrician by Section 6 of this ordinance, provided, however, that said rules and regulations shall not be in conflict with said Code. A copy of said "National Electrical Code" shall be kept on file in the office of the City Electrician.

(b) When the meaning of any rule in the "National Electrical Code" is in dispute, final decision as to the correct interpretation thereof shall rest with the Inspection Department of the Board of Fire Underwriters of the Pacific.

Section 6. (a) The City Electrician is hereby empowered to make, establish and enforce, subject to the approval of the Council, such rules and regulations governing electrical work in the City of Torrance as he shall deem necessary to properly safeguard life and property. A copy of said rules and regulations shall be kept on file in the office of the City Electrician.

(b) Upon the establishment of a rule and approval thereof by the Council and not less than thirty (30) days prior to the enforcement thereof, the City Electrician shall cause to be sent or mailed to each person registered with the Department of Buildings and Inspections in the manner hereinafter provided, a copy of such rule with the date of its enforcement marked thereon, provided, however, that failure to receive a copy of any rule shall not constitute any defenses whatsoever against the imposition of a penalty for the violation of such rule.

(c) In the matter of the interpretation of rules and regulations made and established by the City Electrician and approved by the City Council, the decision of the City Electrician shall be final.

Section 7. (a) Before any person shall engage in the business of installation of electrical work in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance, he must procure a license from the said City so to do, and pay the license tax hereby imposed on such business, and must register his name and place of business in the office of the City Clerk and make and file therein his affidavit that such name and place of business as registered are correctly stated.

(b) The licenses shall be graded and known as Class "A" and Class "B." The license tax hereinbefore prescribed shall be three dollars (\$3.00) per quarter for Class "A" and one dollar (\$1.00) per year for Class "B," payable in advance to the License Collector of the said City of Tor-

rance, who shall issue a license to such person to engage in such business for the period of one (1) year of twelve months from and after the date of such issuance; and said license shall expire at the end of said period, unless sooner revoked as hereinafter provided.

Class "A" license shall grant the holder thereof the right and privilege to carry on an electrical contracting business in the City of Torrance for the installation of electrical wires for the transmission of electric energy for electric light, heat, and power, or any electrical apparatus of whatsoever nature. Class "B" license shall grant the holder thereof the right and privilege to employ a responsible man as a plant electrician to install electric wires in manufacturing plants, mercantile establishments, hotels, theaters, etc., for light, heat, and power or any electrical apparatus of whatsoever nature. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the holder of said license or his employee shall do work only in the location for which the license was granted and have regularly in his employ a person properly qualified to perform, in compliance with the ordinance, rules and regulations of the City of Torrance thereto pertaining, all electrical work done under the authority of such license. Also a permit must be taken out and a fee paid as in Section 8 (a) of this ordinance.

(c) The provisions of all ordinances, "Licensing certain businesses, occupations and callings in the City of Torrance," as the said provisions now stand shall be deemed to be incorporated in this ordinance and shall govern all licenses issued hereunder.

(d) Any person, regularly licensed and registered as hereinbefore provided, who shall lend his license or registration to any other person or shall take out any permit at the office of the Department of Buildings and Inspections under his registered name, and shall allow any person not regularly licensed and registered to do any electrical work under said permit, shall in addition to and irrespective of any other penalty imposed, have his license revoked and registration cancelled by the Council of the City of Torrance.

Section 8. (a) Before any person shall do any electrical work in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance, he must obtain from the City Clerk a permit to do such work, and must pay to the City Clerk the fees prescribed in Section (13) of this ordinance. Said permit shall state the kind of work to be done, the number of outlets, the number, size, and full description of all pieces of electrical apparatus, and the location by street and number of the building or structure in or on which the work is to be done. Such permit shall be valid only for the work and location stated therein. In cases where a building permit is necessary, the electrical permit must not be issued until after the building permit has been issued. If the work authorized by such permit is not commenced within thirty (30) days after the date thereof, such permit shall thereupon and thereafter be void. In such case before work is commenced, a new permit shall be obtained in like manner as the first and the same fees shall be paid as are specified in Section Thirteen (13) of this ordinance.

(b) The following work shall not be deemed to be electrical work necessitating a permit within the meaning of this ordinance: such necessary repairs to electric motors, generators or appliances as do not necessitate new wiring or alterations to old wiring, and such regular repairs as are necessary for the proper maintenance of electric irons, heaters, sockets or switch parts. But nothing herein contained shall be construed to relieve any person from the necessity of obtaining a permit before altering, repairing or adding to any inside electrical wiring or fixtures, or installing motors or other electrical apparatus in new locations, or before doing any other electrical work.

(c) The provisions of this ordinance, excepting those of Sections Twelve (12), Thirteen (13-b) and Seventeen (17) hereof and excepting such other provisions as make express reference to any of the following companies, do not apply to power and lighting companies, telephone or telegraph companies, electric railways or any company operating under a regular franchise granted by the City of Torrance, or any manufacturing or mercantile plant, hotel, theatre, etc., having in their employ an electrical engineer whose duty it is to see that all electrical installations are properly made and maintained in accordance

with the ordinances of the City of Torrance as to general requirements and with the National Electrical Code Regulations of the National Board of Fire Underwriters for electrical wiring and apparatus and in accordance with all state laws and regulations in reference thereto. When any company or corporation desires to assume the responsibility above referred to the plant electrician thereof shall register his name with the City Clerk and take out a Class B License as provided in Section Seven b (7-b) hereof. Provided, however, that said provisions shall apply to any of such companies which shall solicit business from the general public as electrical contractors, or do electrical work in or on any building or structure, except power houses or substations or the extension of their own system.

Section 9. As soon as any electrical work is ready for inspection, the person who has done such work shall file in the office of the City Electrician a request for inspection. The City Electrician shall thereupon cause an inspection to be made of said electrical work. If upon inspection, the City Electrician or his authorized representative shall find that said electrical work has been done, and is in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance, he shall leave a notice at the meter location stating that said electrical work has been "inspected and accepted." If said electrical work has not been done or is not in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance, he shall leave a notice at the meter location stating that the said work has been "inspected and condemned." In case the work has been condemned the notice must state the particulars in which said work has been found unsatisfactory.

Section 10. When any electrical work has been inspected by the City Electrician, and been found to conform to the provisions of this ordinance, and after all inspection fees provided for in this ordinance shall have been paid to the City Clerk, the City Electrician shall thereupon issue a Certificate of Final Inspection certifying that such electrical work has been inspected and been found to comply with all the provisions of this ordinance.

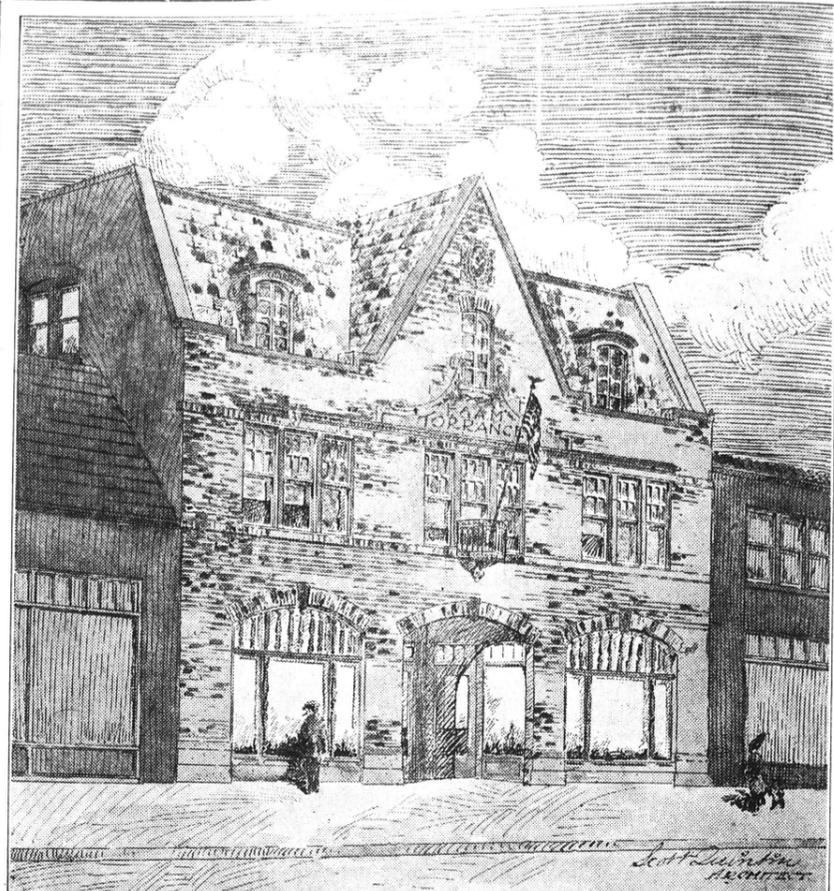
Section 11. The failure on the part of any person to correct any fault of the commission or omission in any electrical work in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance, after inspection and due notification by the City Electrician, or the failure to settle all claims of the City of Torrance for inspection fees, shall be deemed sufficient cause for the refusal of any further permits until such electrical work has been completed or corrected to the satisfaction of the City Electrician, and until such claims have been fully paid.

Section 12. (a) No person shall use, or cause or permit to be used, any electric current in or through any electrical equipment in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance until the Certificate of Final Inspection for the said electrical work has been issued by the City Electrician.

(b) No person furnishing electrical current for any purpose shall connect his distributing system with any electrical equipment in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance without having first received written permission from the City Electrician to furnish current for said electrical equipment, as provided in Section Nine (9).

(c) Before the Certificate of Final Inspection is issued the City Electrician may give permission to furnish or use electricity through any electrical equipment in or on any building or structure in the City of Torrance for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days, if in his opinion, such electrical equipment is in such condition that current may be safely used therein and there exists an urgent necessity for such use.

Section 13. (a) While electrical work is being done prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Final Inspection or at any time when complaint has been filed in the office of the City Electrician that any electrical equipment is defective, the City Electrician or his authorized representative may enter any building or structure in the City of Torrance for the purpose of inspecting the electrical equipment in or about said building or structure, provided, that such entry be made at reasonable hours, and provided also, that the occupant of said building or structure be first shown reasonable evidence of the identity and authority of the City Electrician or his authorized representative seeking to make such entry. If, upon inspection, any part of the electrical



Masonic Temple—Torrance Lodge, No. 447, F. & A. M. Dedicated to Masonry, Friday Night, May 18, 1923, by the Grand Lodge of the State of California.

A reception at 6:00 o'clock in P. & A. M. Hall Friday night by the ladies of the Eastern Star marked the initial entertainment at the dedication services at Masonic Temple, when near 300 Master Masons were seated for dinner in the banquet room. Members of the Torrance Chapter O. E. S. had charge of the chicken dinner, and the setting was beautiful. The ladies were dressed in white, the tables were decked with banks of flowers and the menu served without the slightest variation of well-laid plans. So great was the crowd that it was necessary to clear the tables for a second seating of guests.

Reese was in charge, with past masters assisting in opening the grand lodge of the State of California, after which the usual ceremonies were bestowed upon the local lodge. Past Grand Master Samuel Burke, and Past Grand Orator Will Fisher of Los Angeles were in attendance and gave interesting addresses when they reiterated the fact that this was one of the most important and most auspicious occasions in the history of the lodge. Friday night's accomplishments showed thrift, energy, stability and progress and one only had to be present and view the magnificent surroundings to appreciate the fullness of the praise. The membership as well as the building committee were warmly congratulated many times upon their accomplishment. Over 300 were seated in the hall.

Temple brings to a close many, many hours of thoughtful studying, planning, and negotiating from many angles by the building committee. This committee has been working for two years and it has meant much time given at night and during business hours, consulting with each other over plans, ways and means, overcoming obstacles that occasionally came up for solution. The committee must be congratulated upon its union of action, its efficiency, which culminated Friday night when they presented a magnificent hall, magnificently planned, magnificently furnished. R. R. Smits, president, Paul Dynes, secretary, G. W. Towne, treasurer, G. W. Neill, W. A. Renn. The above were re-elected as directors at a meeting last Monday night.

equipment in or about said building or structure, is found not to conform to the provisions of this ordinance, the City Electrician shall forthwith mail written notice thereof to the owner of the premises or to the person doing the electrical work, said notice being addressed to the premises. If said electrical equipment shall not be made to conform to the provisions of this ordinance within five (5) days after the mailing of said notice, the City Electrician is hereby empowered to disconnect such electrical equipment from its source of current supply. Such equipment must not be used again until it has been repaired to the satisfaction of the City Electrician.

(b) The City Electrician must notify in writing the person supplying electric energy to such defective equipment of the disconnection of the same, and after such notice it shall be unlawful for any person to provide electric energy for such electrical equipment until notified to do so by the City Electrician.

Section 14. (a) Before issuing any permit for any electrical work in the City of Torrance, the City Clerk shall charge and collect from the person applying for such permit the following fees, to-wit:

Table with 2 columns: Description of fee and Amount. Includes 'Minimum fee for one single inspection, 5 outlets or plugs or fixtures and under' for \$ .75, 'All jobs over 5 outlets or plugs, or fixtures, and under 20 lamp outlets, plugs or fixtures, for each job' for 1.50, 'All jobs over 20 outlets, plugs or fixtures, \$1.50 for the first 20 lamp outlets, plugs or fixtures and five (5) cents for each additional lamp outlet, plug or fixture.' Also includes 'Outline lighting, border lights and footlights, including outlets and sockets, per circuit' for .75, 'For each arc light (with other installation for which fee is chargeable)' for .25, and 'For each rectifier charging outfit' for .75.

Table with 2 columns: Description of fee and Amount. Includes 'For each electric sign' for .75, 'For each electric cooking range or heater over 660 Watts' for .75, 'For each motor one H. P. and under where more than one motor will be installed at the same time' for .50, 'For one motor of not more than 1 H. P. single inspection' for .75, 'For each motor over 1, and not more than 3 H. P.' for 1.00, 'For each motor over 3, and not more than 8 H. P.' for 1.50, 'For each motor over 8, and not more than 15 H. P.' for 2.00, 'For each motor over 15 H. P.' for 2.50, 'For each generator of more than three Kilowatt and not more than 8 Kilowatt' for 1.50, 'For each generator of more than 8 Kilowatt and not more than 1 Kilowatt' for 1.00, 'For each generator of more than 1 Kilowatt and not more than 3 Kilowatt' for 2.00, 'For each generator of more than 3 Kilowatt and not more than 8 Kilowatt' for 2.00, 'For each generator over 15 Kilowatt' for 2.50.

(b) Where wiring and fixtures can be inspected at the same time they will be considered as one job. Section 14. Before the electric wiring is inspected, all plumbing headers, lathing strips, tarring, piping or tube work must be in place on work to be concealed. It shall be unlawful to conceal in any manner any electrical equipment until the same has been inspected and accepted as herein required.

Section 15. This ordinance shall not be construed to relieve from, or lessen, the responsibility of any person owning, operating, constructing or installing any electrical equipment for damages to life or property caused by any defect therein; nor shall the City of Torrance or any agent thereof, be held as assuming any liability by reason of the inspection required herein.

Section 16. It shall be the duty of the City Clerk to turn all moneys received under the provisions of this ordinance into the Treasury of the City of Torrance. Section 17. Any person violating any of the provisions of this

ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten (10) dollars and not more than one hundred (100) dollars. The judgment imposing such fine may provide for its collection by imprisonment in the County Jail of Los Angeles County until such fine has been paid at the rate, in the manner, and for the time provided by law.

Section 18. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of the foregoing ordinance and shall cause the same to be published once in the Torrance Herald, a weekly newspaper printed, published, and circulated in the City of Torrance and hereby designated for that purpose, and thereupon and thereafter this ordinance shall be in full force and effect.

ORD 53—GAL FIVE Approved this 15th day of May, 1923.

W. H. GILBERT, President of Board of Trustees.

ALBERT H. BARTLETT, City Clerk.

State of California, County of Los Angeles, ss. I, Albert H. Bartlett, City Clerk of the City of Torrance, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the Board of Trustees of the City of Torrance at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 15th day of May, 1923, by the following vote:

AYES: Trustees Nash, Proctor, Fitzhugh and Gilbert. NOES: None. ABSENT: Trustee Stone.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of said City this 15th day of May, 1923. (Seal)

ALBERT H. BARTLETT, City Clerk.

Here's a beauty secret for women. Never start a fight with the other woman if her finger nails are longer than yours. A bent front axle, no matter how slight, not only causes poor steering, but will soon prematurely wear the tread of both front tires.